

How to Vacuum Lead Dust from Carpeted Floors

A vacuum with a HEPA- certified filter removes over 99.9% of particles in the air. This type of filter is necessary to completely trap and remove lead dust from your home. Vacuums without a HEPA filter can put lead dust back into the air. You can borrow a HEPA vacuum for free from the City of Milwaukee Health Department.

1. Borrow a HEPA vacuum.



Go to the front desk of the Health Department, and check out a vacuum cleaner. You can borrow a HEPA vacuum for 3 days.

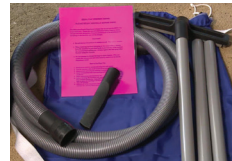
2. Unpack the HEPA vacuum.

Unpack the HEPA vacuum from the City of Milwaukee Health Department.



3. Assemble the HEPA vacuum.

Make sure to read the instructions provided with the HEPA vacuum.



- Assemble the HEPA vacuum by connecting the metal tubes to the hose attachment.



- Carefully peel the tape away from hose slot.



- Connect the hose attachment to the vacuum.



- Plug the vacuum in to an outlet and press the on switch.



4. Vacuum the carpet.



- Slowly move the vacuum across the floor in a vertical back-and-forth motion.
- Then vacuum the floor a second time, moving the vacuum in a horizontal back-and-forth motion. Repeat if necessary.
- Vacuum every room in the home.

5. Pack up the HEPA vacuum.

- Unplug the HEPA vacuum.
- Carefully place all of the HEPA vacuum attachments into the carrying case.
- Re-tape the hose slot on the vacuum. **Do not open the HEPA vacuum.** This ensures all dust stays in the vacuum.



6. Wash your hands.

Always wash your hands after cleaning any possible lead hazard. Use soap and warm water, scrubbing your hands for at least 30 seconds.



7. Return the HEPA vacuum.

Return the HEPA vacuum to the City of Milwaukee Health Department. The staff at the Health Department will properly clean out the HEPA vacuum.

Include HEPA vacuuming the floors at least once a week in your regular cleaning routine to prevent lead dust from gathering in your home.



RESOURCES

City of Milwaukee Health Department 414-286-2165
National Lead Information Center Hotline 1-800-424-LEAD (5323)
Milwaukee Lead Asbestos Information Center 414-481-9070



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